

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 00680 051457Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

SAM-01 AID-20 SIL-01 LAB-06 DRC-01 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 /113 W

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R 051428Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4384

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, TS

SUBJECT: MEETING OF JOINT TUNISIAN-LIBYAN PLANNING
COMMITTEE

1. ABDELKRIM FATHALLAH BELOU, LIBYAN MINISTER OF
PLAN, VISITED TUNIS JANUARY 25-29 AT HEAD OF LIBYAN
DELEGATION TO FIRST SESSION OF JOINT TUNISIAN-LIBYAN
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR PLANIFICATION. TUNISIAN
DELEGATION HEADED BY MINISTER OF PLAN MOALLA. BOTH
SIDES STRESSED THAT MEETINGS HELD IN CONTEXT OF
NUMBEROUS CONTACTS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES DURING 1973
TO BRING ABOUT CLOSER COOPERATION. COMMITTEE STUDIED
WAYS OF COORDINATING PLANING FUNCTIONS IN ORDER TO
"REALIZE COMMON DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS". IN THIS REGARD,
MOALLA NOTED THAT TWO COUNTRIES COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER
IN FIELD OF EMPLOYMENT, WHERE LIBYA NEEDS 20,000
WORKERS A YEAR AND TUNISIA CAN SUPPLY UP TO 30,000.
GOT MINISTRY OF PLAN OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY THAT
HIS MINISTRY PREPARED NUMBER OF REPORTS FOR MEETINGS
INDICATING PRESENT AND FUTURE AVAILABILITY OF TUNISIAN
WORKERS, TECHNICAL EXPERTS AND ADVISORS, AND TRAINING CADRES.

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 00680 051457Z

NEXT MEETING OF THIS JOINT COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD END OF

MARCH.

2. COMMENT: MANY JOINT TECHNICAL COMMITTEES MET DURING
1973 (SEE TUNIS A-009, JAN. 25, 1974) BUT THIS FIRST
MEETING SINCE JANUARY 12 DIERBA DECLARATION OF UNION.
MEETING UNDERLINES FACT THAT, ALTHOUGH JANUARY 12
DECLARATION BEING INCREASINGLY ERODED, CLOSER ECONOMIC
COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES INITIATED IN DEC 1972
WITH AIM OF ACHIEVING EVENTUAL UNION IS STILL CONTINUING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, FEDERATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, FOREIGN WORKERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TUNIS00680
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740253/aaaabyga.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <04-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING OF JOINT TUNISIAN-LIBYAN PLANNING COMMITTEE
TAGS: ECON, OVIP, TS, LY, TUNISIAN-LIBYAN PLANNING COMMITTEE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005